The following communication is circulated at the request of the delegation of Norway.

Norway is prepared as an initial commitment under the General Agreement on Trade in Services to bind its present market access and national treatment conditions in all services sectors to be covered by the Agreement. This initial offer is presented as a basis for negotiations on initial commitments.

This offer is conditional on other parties' offers for initial commitments, and Norway reserves its right to modify, reduce or withdraw the whole or parts of the offer. This includes the opportunity to withdraw sub-sectors in case no equivalent commitments are offered by other participants within this particular sub-sector. Norway reserves its right to revise and modify this offer also in light of the content of the rules and disciplines in the Agreement.

The offer is made subject to agreement on an acceptable framework agreement with the inclusion of a strong m.f.n. commitment.

The offer is furthermore conditional on acceptable sectoral annexes for the sectors where such annexes are found necessary.

Norway is prepared to present the above-mentioned offer in detail with respect to different services sectors, sub-sectors and modes of delivery after the evaluation of the negotiating results with respect to the framework agreement, sectoral annexes and offers made by other participants.

If this offer is implemented, Norway would bind all existing domestic regulations affecting trade in services in relation to the provisions on market access and national treatment in Part III of the Services Agreement. More restrictive measures would not be introduced in the future.

The Norwegian offer does not include or affect measures taken for the purpose of regulating entry into, residence in or exit from Norwegian territory. No changes to the Norwegian Constitution, labour market practices or to the jurisdiction over activities taking place inside Norwegian territory are contemplated as a result of the offer presented in this paper.